

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended. In response to the Office Action mailed 9/17/04, Applicant is filing this amendment. Please amend claims 23, 26, 29 and 31. Accordingly, claims 23-33 are still pending.

In the Office Action mailed 9/17/04, the Examiner has rejected claims 23-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Singh et al. (Pub. No. US2002/0147875; "Singh") in view of Pettey et al. (US 6,067,590; "Pettey"). Applicant submits that the amended claims distinguish over the relied upon art. The amended independent claims recite an arbitration of a bus in one clock cycle; driving of an address onto the bus by an agent winning arbitration and agents involved in coherency sampling and evaluating the address in a subsequent clock cycle; agents involved in coherency responding with coherent response signals on the bus at a fixed number of clock cycle or cycles after the address; and data driven onto the bus in response to the address in which data may be driven not at a fixed number of clock cycle or cycles after the address to allow data to be driven out of order on the bus.

Applicant submits that Singh and Pettey fail to disclose the embodiments of the invention now claimed in the amended claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection and allow pending claims 23-33, as amended.

If there are any fee shortages related to this response, please charge such fee shortages to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 C.F.R 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

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